

LESSONS LEARNED

POV ACCIDENT PREVENTION

SAFETY MESSAGE

Bad Decisions Can Lead To Fatal Consequences!



Over the Veteran's Holiday weekend, four soldiers and two German civilians were riding in a rented five passenger Mercedes Benz. Preliminary investigation results indicate that while traveling at excessive speed on a secondary highway, the vehicle approached a slight curve with a posted speed limit of 60 kph.. Due to excessive speed, the vehicle drifted past the centerline and struck an oncoming semi-truck head-on. Two of the soldiers and both German civilians were killed. The two remaining soldiers received life threatening injuries resulting from the accident. The truck driver was treated for shock. The four passengers in the back seat were not wearing seatbelts.

- **Causal Factors**
- **Excessive speed.**
- **Loss of Control. Vehicle crossed the centerline.**
- **Exceeding vehicle passenger limitations.**
- **Underestimated personal risk.**

- **Lessons Learned**
- **Seat belts not used.**
- ✓ **Speed Kills!**
- ✓ **Buckle your seatbelt!**
- ✓ **Accept no unnecessary risk!**
- ✓ **YOU ARE NOT INVINCIBLE!**

